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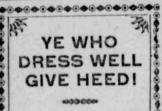
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## WHEN KNIGHTHOO WAS IN FLOWER

Rewritten and Rendered Into Modern English From Sir Edwin

By EDWIN CASKODEN [CHARLES MAJOR] <del>44444444444444444444444444444</del>

THE CASKODENS.

Caskodens take great pride in our ancestry. Some persons, I know, hold all that to be totally un-Solombulike and eight of vanity, but they usually no ancestors of whom to be The man who does not know who his great-grandfather was naturally enough would not care what he was. The Caskodens have pride of anbecause they know both who

We have a right to be proud, for there is an unbroken male line from William the Conqueror down to the present time. In this lineal list are fourteen barons-the title lapsed when Charles I. fell-twelve Knights of the Garter and forty-seven Knights of the Bath and other orders. A Caskoden distinguished himself by gallant serv-ice under the great Norman and was given rich English lands and a fair Saxon bride, aibeit an unwilling one as his reward. With this fair, unwilling Saxon bride and her long plait of yellow bair goes a very pretty, pathetic story, which I may tell you at some future time if you take kindly to this. A Caskoden was seneschal to William ltufus and sat at the rich, half barbaric banquets in the first great hall. Still another was one of the doughty barons who wrested from John the great charter, England's declaration of great charter, England's declaration of independence; another was high in the councils of Henry V. I have omitted one whom I should not fall to mention, Adjodika Caskoden, who was a member of the dunce parliament of Henry IV., so called because there were no lawyers in it.

It is true that in the time of Edward IV. a Caskoden did stoop to trade, but

IV. a Caskoden did stoop to trade, but it was trade of the most dignified, hon-orable sort—he was a goldsmith, and his guild, as you know, were the bank ers and international clearance house for people, kings and nobles.

Now, it has been the custom of the Caskodens for centuries to keep a rec-ord of events as they have happened. both private and public. Some are in the form of diaries and journals, like those of Pepys and Evelyn; others in letters, like the Pastons'; others, again, in verse and song, like Chaucer's and the Water Poet's, and still others in the nore pretentious form of memoir and chronicle. These records we always have kept jeeleusly within our family, thinking it vulgar, like the Pastons, to submit our private affairs to public gaze.

There can, however, be no reason why those parts treating solely of outsid matters should be so carefully guarded, and I have determined to choose for publication such portions as do not divuige family secrets or skeletons, and which really redound to family honor. For this occasion I have selected

from the memoir of my worthy ances-tor and namesake, Sir Edwin Caskoden, grandson of the goldsmith and master of the dance to Henry VIII., the story of Charles Brandon and Mary Tudor, sister to the king.

This story is so well known to the student of English history that I fear its repetition will lack that zest which attends the development of an unfore seen denouement, but it is of so great interest and is so full in its sweet, fierce manifestation of the one thing insolu-ble by time-love—that I will neverthe-less rewrite it from old Sir Edwin's

CHAPTER I.

T sometimes happens, Sir Ed win says, that when a woman will she won't, and when she won't she will, but usually in 200 the end the adage holds good. That sentence may not be luminous with meaning, but I will give you an illus

I think it was in the spring of 1509at any rate, soon after the death of the Modern Solomon, as Queen Catherine called her old father-in-law, the late King Henry VII.—that his august majesty Henry VIII., "the vndustate flower and very Helre of both the snyd Linages," came to the throne of England and tendered me the honorable position of master of the dance at his sumptuous court.
As to "worldly goods," as some of

As to "worldly goods," as some of the new religionists call wealth, I was very comfortably off, having inherited from my father, one of the counselors of Henry VII., a very competent forof Henry VII., a very competent fortune indeed. How my worthy father
contrived to save from the greedy
hand of that rich old miser so great a
fortune I am sure I cannot tell. He
was the only man of my knowledge
who did it, for the old king had a reach
as long as the kingdom, and, upon one
pretext or another, appropriated to
bimself everything on which he could
lay his hands. My father, however,
was himself pretty shrewd in money
matters, having inherited along with
his fortune a rare knack at keeping it.
His father was a goldsmith in the time
of King Edward and enjoyed the mark-

His father was a goldsmith in the time of King Edward and enjoyed the marked favor of that puissant prince.

Being thus in a position of affluence, I cared nothing for the fact that little or no emolument went with the office. It was the honor which delighted me. Besides, I was thereby an inmate of the king's palace and brought into intimate relations with the court, and,

above all, with the finest ladies of the land—the best company a man can keep, since it ennobles his mind with better thoughts, purifies his heart with cleaner motives and makes him gentle without detracting from his strength. It was an office any lord of the king-dom might have been proud to hold. Now, some four or five years after

my induction into this honorable office there came to court news of a terrible duel fought down in Suffolk, out of which only one of the four combatants had come alive—two, rather, but one of them in a condition worse than death. The first survivor was a son of Sir William Brandon, and the second was a man called Sir Adam Judson. The story went that young Brandon and his elder brother, both just home from the continental wars, had met Judson at an Ipswich inn, where there had been considerable gambling among them. Judson had won from the brothers a large sum of money which they had-brought home, for, notwithstanding their youth, the elder being but twenty-six and the younger about twenty-four years of age, they had gained great honor and considerable profit in wars, especially the younger, whose name was Charles.

It is a little hard to fight for mone; and then to lose it by a single spot up on the die, but such is the fate of him who plays, and a philosopher will swal-low his ill luck and take to fighting for more. The Brandons could have done this easily enough, especially Charles, who was an offhand philosopher, rather who was an online philosopher, rather fond of a good humored fight, had it not been that In the course of play one evening the secret of Judson's winning had been disclosed by a discovery that he cheated. The Brandons waited until they were sure, and then trouble began, which resulted in a duel on the

began, which resumed as second morning following. Second morning following. This Judson was a Scotch gentleman This Judson was a scotch genticman of whom very little was known except that he was counted the most deadly and most cruel duellst of the time. He was called the "Walking Death," and it is said he took pride in the appellagot the story of the duel afterward from Brandon as I give it here.

John was the elder brother and when the challenge came was entitled to fight first, a birthright out of which Charles tried in vain to talk him. The broth ers told their father, Sir William Bran-don, and at the appointed time father and sons repaired to the place of meet-ing, where they found Judson and his two seconds ready for the fight.

Sir William was still a vigorous man with few equals in sword play, and the sons, especially the younger, were bet-ter men and more skillful than their fa-ther had ever been, yet they felt that this duel meant certain death, so great was Judson's fame for skill and cruel ty. Notwithstanding they were so hand-icapped with this feeling of impending evil, they met their duty without a tremor, for the motto of their house was "Malo Mori Quam Fedrai."

It was a misty morning in March. Brandon has told me since that when his elder brother took his stand it was at once manifest that he was Judson's superior both in strength and skill, but after a few strokes the brother's blade bent double and broke off short at the filt when it should have gone home. Thereupon Judson, with a malignant smile of triumph, deliberately selected his opponent's heart and pierced it with his sword, giving the blade a twist as he drew it out in order to cut and muti-

In an instant Sir William's doublet was off, and he was in his dead son's tracks, ready to avenge him or to die



"Fight, you bloodhound!"

Again the thrust which should have killed broke the sword, and the father

died as the son had died.

After this came young Charles, expecting, but so great was his strong heart, not one whit fearing, to lie beside his dead father and brother. He knew he was the superior of both in strength and skill, and his knowledge of men and the noble art told him they had each been the superior of Judson, but the fellow's hand seemed to be the hand of death. An opening came through Judson's unskillful play which gave young Brandon an opportunity

for a thrust to kill, but his blade, like his father's and his brother's, bent double without penetrating. Unlike the others, however, it did not break and the thrust revealed the fact that Judson's skill as a duelist lay in a shirt of mail which it was useless to try to pierce. Aware of this, Brandon knew that victory was his and that soon he would have avenged the murders that had gone before. He saw that his adversary was strong neither in which nor arm and had not the skill the reported his grand in a work's tree. to penetrate his guard in a week's try-ing, so he determined to fight on the defensive until Judson's should wane, and then kill him when and now he chose.

After a time Judson a gan to breathe hard and his thrusts to lack for a. "Boy, I would spare you," he said. "I have killed enough of your tribe. Put up your sword and call it quits."

Young Brandon replied: "Stand your ground, you coward. You will be a dead man as soon as you grow a little weaker. If you try to run, I will thrust you through the neck as I would a cur. Listen how you snort. I shall soon have you. You are almost one. You would spare me, would you? could preach a sermon or dance a comple while I am killing you. I hornpipe hornpipe while I am kimps you. I will not break my sword against your coat of mail, but will wait until you fail from weakness, and then— Fight, you bloodhound!"

Judson was pale from exhaustion,

and his breath was coming in gasps as he tried to keep the merciless sword from his threat. At last, by a dexterous twist of his blade, Brandon sent Judson's sword flying thirty feet away. The fellow started to run, but turned and fell upon his knees to beg for life. Brandon's reply was a flashing circle of steel, and his sword point cut length wise through Judson's eyes and the bridge of his nose, leaving him sightless and hideous for life—a revenge com-pared to which death would have been

nerciful.

The duel created a sensation throughout the kingdom, for, although little was known as to who Judson was, his fame as a duelist was as broad as the land. He had been at court upon sev eral occasions, and at one time, upon the king's birthday, had fought in the royal lists. So the matter came in for its share of consideration by king and courtiers, and young Brandon became a person of interest. He became still more so when some gentlemen who had served with him in the continental wars told the court of his daring and brav ery and related stories of deeds at arms worthy of the best knight in Christen-

He had an uncle at the court. Sir Thomas Brandon, the king's master of horse, who thought it a good opportunity to put his nephew forward and let him take his chance at winning royal favor. The uncle broached the subject it is said he took price in the appearance to the king, with favorable issue, and eighty-seven duels, in which he had Charles Brandon, led by the hand of killed seventy-five men, and it was considered certain death to meet him. I same fate had in keeping for him events such as seldom fall to the lot of man. CHAPTER II.

HOW BRANDON CAME TO COURT. WHEN we learned that Brandon was coming to court every was coming to court, every one believed he would soon 2000 gain the king's favor. Ho

tell, as the king's favorites were of many serts and taken from all condi-tions of men. There was Master Wolsey, a butcher's son, when he had first made almoner, then chief counciler and bishop of Lincoln, soon to be bishop of York and cardinal of the holy Roman

From the other extreme of life came oung Thomas, Lord Howard, heir to the Earl of Surrey, and my Lord of Buckingham, premier peer of the realm Then sometimes would the king take a yeoman of the guard and make him his companion in jousts and tourns ments solely because of his brawn and bone. There were others whom he kept close by him in the palace because of their wit and the entertainment they furnished, of which class was I, and, I flatter myself, no mean

To begin with, being in no way de-pendent on the king for money, I never drew a farthing from the royal treas-ury. This, you may be sure, did me no harm, for, although the king sometimes delighted to give, he always hated to pay. There were other good reasons, too, why I should be a favorite with

My appointment as master of the dance, I am sure, was owing entirely to my manner. My brother, the baron, who stood high with the king, was not friendly toward me because my father had seen fit to bequeath me so good a competency in place of giving it all to the firstborn and leaving me dependent the firstborn and leaving me dependent upon the tender mercies of an elder brother. So I had no help from him nor from any one else. I was quite small of stature and therefore unable to compete with lance and mace with bulkier men, but I would bet with any man, of any size, on any game, at any place and time, in any amount, and, if I do say it, who perhaps should not, I basked in the light of many a fair smile which larger men had sighed for

I did not know when Brandon first came to London. We had all remained at Greenwich while the king went up to Westminster to waste his time with matters of state and quarrel with the parliament, then sitting, over the amount of certain subsidies.

Mary, the king's sister, then some Mary, the king's sister, then some eighteen or nineteen years of age, a perfect bud, just blossoming into a perfect flower, had gone over to Windsor on a visit to her elder sister, Margaret of Scotland, and the palace was dull enough. Brandon, it seems, had been presented to Henry during this time at Westminster and had, to some extent at least, become a favorite before I
met him. The first time I saw him was
at a loust given by the king at Westminster in celebration of the fact that
he had coaxed a good round subsidy out of parliament.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

## RAILROAD TIME TABLES,

ILLIBOIS CENTRAL

Corrested to Jan. 7, 1908.				
South Bound	121	103	101	
Lv. Cincinnati	7:20am	6.00pm	8:40sz	
Lv. Louisville		9:40pm	12:50pa	
Lv. Owensboro	9:00am	6:10pm	9:00:12	
Lv. H. Branch	10:53am	A	3:29pt	
Lv. Central City	12:20am	1:05am	4:20pt	
Lv. Nortonville	1:30pm	1:40am	5:00pr	
Lv. Evansville	8:30am	4:00pm	8:30m	
Lv. Hopkinsville	11:30am	MINISTER.	4;35pt	
Lv. Princeton	2:24pm	2:28am	5.49pt	
Ar. Paducah	3:45pm	3:37am	7:05pr	
Lv. Paducah	3:50pm	3:42am	7:10pr	
Ar. Fulton	5:20pm	4:50am	8:20pt	
Ar. Cairo	10:15pm	12:15pm	10:15pt	
Ar. Paducah Jot		5:48am	8:48pt	
Ar. Rives		5:56am	8:57pt	
Ar, Jackson	2000	7:10am	neverse	
Ar. Memphis		8:35am	11:50pr	
Ar. N. Orleans		7:40pm	10:55ar	
		100	135	
Lv. Hopkinsville		Land Mark	5:00ar	
Lv. Princeton			6:10ar	
Ar. Paducah	*************	***************************************	7:50at	
North Bound	122	102	104	
Lv. N. Orleans		7:35pm	9:40ar	
Lv. Memphis	**********	7:00am	8:40pr	
Ly Jackson	-	9:11non	8:40pt	

Lv. Princeton	-	5:00an 6:10ar 7:50an
North Bound 122	102	104
Lv. N. Orleans	7:35pm	9:40ar
Lv. Memphis	7:00am	8:40pr
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Lv. Rives	9:51am	11.48pr
Lv. Paducah Jcs	*** ******	8:51pt
L.v. Cairo 8:35a	m 8:20am	6:45pr
Lv Fulton 6:00s	m 10:27am	12:20m
Ar. Paducah 7:40s	m 11:30am	1:30ar
Lv Paducah 7:50s	im 11:25am	1:35ar
Ar. Princeton 9:220	m 12:43pm	2:49ar
Ar. Hopkinsville	3:40pm	10:3501
Ar, Evansville	6:35pm	10:10az
Ar. Nortonville 10:34a		
Ar. Central City 11:30a		
Ar. H. Branch 1:08p		
Ar. Owensboro 5:30p		8:10ar
Ar. Louisville 4:50p		7:45ar
Ar. Cincinnati	9:12pm	11:5501
Ly Paducah		138

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Lv. Paducah 7:25am
Union Depot 7:30am
Paris 9:28am
Hollow Rock Junct, 10:20am
Jackson 12:25pm
Ar Memphis 3:45pm
Nashville 1:25om
Chattanooga, 9:30pm
Atlanta 2:15pm 2:20pm 4:30pm 5:27pm 7:35pm Atlanta. NORTH BOUND. Lv. Atlanta Chattanooga ... Nashville.....

8:30pm 1:15am 7:00am 7:45am 10:20am 11:05am 1:15pm 1:30pm n and cat Paris Union depot Ar Paducah All trains run daily. Through train a service between Paducah and Jackson, phs. Nashville snd Chattanoga, Tenn connections for Atlanta, Ga., Jacksonvill Washington, Paltimore, Philadelphia au York; also for Arkansas, Texas and

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